

# SUGAR PLANTATION NEWS

## IMPROVEMENTS ARE TOLD IN EXCELLENT REPORT OF COMPANY

Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Company Has Done Much During Past Year

### MORE WORK IS BEING PUSHED AND PLANNED

Except For Drought This Year's Outturn Would Have Been Banner Crop

Except for the drought of last year Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Company would have this year harvested its banner crop, one of 60,000 tons or more. Even now it is indicated the crop will be in excess of last year's. This is told in the annual report of the company, copies of which have been received from San Francisco. The report is an excellent one and shows the great improvements made, in progress and planned for the present year.

Last year's output of this company was 53,312 tons and this year's crop was conservatively estimated at 53,649 but the returns from the cane thus far harvested have indicated that the early figures may be considerably surpassed.

Receipts are large. Net receipts from sugar last year were \$5,748,959.36 and from all sources of revenue \$5,944,739.82. Expenditures were \$3,680,347.77 which included income taxes for 1917 \$45,602.04 and a reserve for taxes on the profits of 1917 of \$650,309.66. Dividends of eighteen percent, \$1,800,000 were paid during the year and there was carried forward to profit and loss \$464,392.95. The permanent improvement account has been increased over last year by \$1,977,273.16.

To make good the loss of young cane and ratoons killed by the drought, when rains came in November, much replanting was done and for this purpose more than 25,000 bags of seed cane were used. After the setting in of winter weather much weeding had to be done and at the present time the cane has responded splendidly to the rains and fairly good results from the 1919 crop are expected. Because of water shortage not an acre was planted in October and planting was almost at a standstill in August and September.

Last Year's Improvements. Among the improvements treated in the report is the Waialea reservoir and ditch which will give an added storage capacity and will be of great value in holding the storm water from Waialea stream. This reservoir is now in use as is the Hauiku ditch where work was started in June, 1916. The Koolau ditch will be completed during the present year.

Last year the camp was largely remodeled and 105 laborers' cottages were built and the new office building was completed, a substantial concrete, fire-proof structure.

The statement of 1917 improvements shows:

Pumps	\$196,572.45
New buildings	41,564.18
Tools and implements	5,105.47
Mill	113,443.97
Carts and wagons	2,425.88
Ditch work	90,884.24
Live stock	11,045.49
New office	19,414.20
Railroad	7,874.74

\$500,317.15

Relative to the improvements proposed to be made during the present year the report says:

Contemplated Improvements. The following is an estimate of the probable improvements for this year:

Ditches	\$125,000.00
Mill	50,000.00
Pumps	50,000.00
Buildings	40,000.00
Locomotive	13,000.00
Extras	22,000.00

Total \$300,000.00

Realizing that on account of the present high cost of production, it is necessary to retrench, we are trying to hold down improvements as much as possible. However, I would say that in the foregoing statement a good many of these improvements consist of work left over from last year, and it is therefore obviously necessary to continue the work.

Ditches—\$125,000. We have allowed this amount for ditches, which should cover our proportion of the work done this year in the relining of the Koolau Ditch and the building of the proposed new Hamakua Ditch, and the finishing of the lining of the Hauiku Ditch.

Mill—\$50,000. It will be necessary to install five new boilers during the coming off-season and unquestionably there will be other replacements necessary.

Pumps—\$50,000. The improvements on the pumps will be for the most part the finishing up of the new Power Station, which, on account of high price of materials, is costing us considerably more than was anticipated.

Buildings—\$40,000. It will be necessary to build two or three houses for our head men and we will have to build from 75 to 100 laborers' cottages, as the number of the families on the plantation is continually increasing.

## SUGAR IS MOVING WITH BETTER SPEED

Facilities For Shipments This Month Are Proving Better Than Had Been Feared

Sugar is going forward to the main land steadily and in larger quantities this month than had been anticipated. Since Thursday of last week there have been reported shipments of 16,394 tons which brings the total to date, including the last loading, up to 158,312 tons. Somewhat in the way of a surprise, and a pleasant one to the shippers, was the arrival this week of the motor-ship George Washington which is to take sugar from here to San Francisco. It has been reported that she can take 11,500 tons but from past experience the shippers are inclined to discount this somewhat. Her captain says she can take 11,000 but assuming that she takes 10,000 tons it will be a welcome relief for the shippers and will materially help to swell the totals for the month.

When it is said the shippers are inclined to discount reports as to cargo capacity it is meant that in a number of instances since the shipping shortage commenced to bite the actual capacity has been found to be materially smaller than preliminary estimates. In this instance it appears that such a state of affairs is not likely.

Another vessel which is expected to help move the accumulating sugar is the Point Asena which, it is expected, will arrive Sunday and load 2800 tons. With the other vessels that may be expected during the month it is likely that the April shipments will run up a comfortable total.

Of the 158,312 tons thus far shipped 120,000 has been for the Sugar Factors Company and 25,680 has been western sugar. On the Big Island, according to Inter Island purveyors' reports, there is now available shipment 22,628 tons. On the other islands some sugar is accumulating in storage but, while an increase over last month's sugar awaiting shipment may be expected the first of the month, the increase will likely be smaller than has been feared.

## CANADA MAY SOON EXPORT BEET SUGAR

Canadian manufacturers of sugar from beets took slightly less than \$1,000,000 out of their business last year, and the prospects are that Canada will make enough beet sugar this year to begin exporting it besides practically filling its own demand. In addition, Canada is doing much to supply Great Britain's greatly increased demand for sugar, for on the peninsula between the Detroit and Niagara rivers farmers are raising practically all the varieties of fruit and berries that are sought by the jam makers. With wholesalers of foreign beet sugar, this spring's harvest from the groves in the Ottawa valley and of Eastern Quebec should set in new figures for this product. The Canadian soldiers have carried maple sugar with them to France, and there have given many people their first taste of a new flavor. Like sugar, the word beet promises no longer to connote semi-tropical climates, for a large area in Southern California has been planted with Guayula rubber trees, which are expected to become useful in five years. The climate of Riverside County has been declared well adapted to rubber production.

## RUSHING WORK TO GET FAITH READY

According to San Francisco shipping reports the new concrete ship Faith will be ready for her trial trip on May 1. In order to hasten the date when she can put to sea the staff of men engaged in installing engines and machinery in the new ship has been more than doubled recently, after she was moved from the Oakland to the San Francisco side of the bay. There are now three shifts of employees busy completing the finishing touches to the Faith.

If the trial trip is made on May 1, as planned by the San Francisco Shipbuilding Company, she will have been ready to put to sea forty-two days after she was launched.

GROCERS MEET IN JUNE

The annual convention of the National Wholesale Grocers' Association will be held this year at Cleveland, Ohio, during the week of June 10. Convention headquarters will be at the Hotel Hollenden. The convention will be officially known as the "Constitution Convention" and, as the name suggests, the program will be largely devoted to food conservation. The association is strongly supporting the Food Administration.

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## Steam Plows At Work On Paia Plantation



## SUGAR SELLS LOWER NOW THAN BEFORE WAR DAYS

Sugar is practically the only food commodity which has actually declined in price since the declaration of war by the United States. In Canada as well as in this country it has declined in price but not to such an appreciable extent as here. It is the control of the commodity by the food administration through the sugar commissions that has brought this about. In this country the price for refined sugar is seven-eighths of a cent lower than in October last and of all the war-time commodities the price is far and away the lowest.

The table below takes the chief sugar distributing points of the United States, Canada, the British Islands, France and Italy. In this country New York formerly made the price and is therefore taken.

Cents per pound, based on pre-war rate of exchange.

	New York	Montreal	London	Paris	Rome
Oct. 1, 1917	8.183	8.67	9.98	12.28	26.3
Oct. 15, 1917	8.183	8.67	9.98	12.28	26.3
Nov. 1, 1917	8.183	8.67	9.98	12.28	26.3
Nov. 15, 1917	8.183	8.67	9.98	12.28	26.3
Dec. 1, 1917	8.183	8.67	9.98	12.28	26.3
Dec. 15, 1917	7.987	8.67	9.98	12.28	26.3
Jan. 1, 1918	7.987	8.67	9.98	12.28	26.3
Jan. 15, 1918	7.301	8.57	9.98	12.28	26.3
Feb. 1, 1918	7.301	8.57	9.98	12.28	26.3
Feb. 15, 1918	7.301	8.07	9.98	12.28	26.3

NOTE.—All of these countries buy raw sugar at practically the same price.

f. o. b. Cuba.

Tax on sugar—Canada, 1.345; United Kingdom, 2.76; United States (normal), 1.25; (Cuban), 1.01; France, 2.95; Italy, 8.7.

With prices of all commodities up, with freight rates largely increased, with high taxes to meet and uncertainty as to when sugar will be shipped and returns made, it can readily be seen why Hawaiian planters must join with others to secure some substantial increase, say one cent a pound on raws, for the 1919 crop, it being too late to do so this year.

With freer receipts of raws and larger meltings by the refiners, together with considerable improvement noted in the distribution of beet sugars throughout the Middle West, supplies of refined throughout the country are showing a marked improvement, and stringency conditions are slowly being dissipated.

In another month no stringency should exist at any point in the country, and supplies should be available in sufficient volume to meet very close to normal requirements at this time of year.

W. S. S.

## CONFECTIONERS TO MEET

Chicago has been chosen by the executive committee of the National Confectioners' Association of the United States as the place of the association's thirty-fifth annual convention, to be held May 7 to 10 of this year, inclusive. Convention headquarters will be at the Edgewater Beach Hotel, on the lake shore.

The committee announces that this will be the most important convention in the history of the association and states that the attendance of every member who can come is looked for. The convention's program is expected to be given over largely to the consideration of the confectionery industry's part in the national food conservation policies.

## HEAVY DOWNPOURS WASH OUT CANE IN SOME PLANTATIONS

At One Point In Hamakua Sixteen Inches Fell In Space of Seventeen Hours

### STREAM RISES TWENTY FEET IN SHORT TIME

Reports of Damage Come In Slowly But Indicate Seriousness In Sections

Reports of the damage to crops occasioned by the rains which occurred in the early half of the month are coming in slowly. Damage has been general but in some sections it has been extensive.

It was in the Hamakua district of Hawaii, the district that was last year worst damaged by drought, that the heaviest rains occurred. Reports from Honokaa give some remarkable figures. In the week which ended Thursday, April 11, there was twenty-six inches of rain and this is more than fell through the whole of the dry spell of last summer and fall. In the one hundred days from January 1 to April 10 it rained on sixty-seven days and the total precipitation was ninety-eight inches as against thirty-five inches for the same period of last year and as against a normal precipitation for twelve months up to March 31 of sixty-six inches.

Record Rainfall. In one day at Honokaa there was a rainfall of sixteen inches in seventeen hours. One stream rose to a height of twenty feet and reached a dune above it. On this plantation the young cane, planted to replace that which was killed by the drought of last year was largely washed out and it will be necessary to plant and replant.

Other plantations in Hamakua, North Kohala, North Hilo and some other sections on Hawaii suffered similarly. There was damage to crops in Maui as well.

In the weather bureau's report for the week ending April 13 it gives the following summary of rainfall by islands and from its correspondents at various stations.

Excessive rainfall occurred on the 10th and 11th at many places throughout the section, and much damage was done to bridges and roadways through washouts. On Hawaii and Maui the soil is too wet for cultivation, and crops are making slow progress. In Hawaii, the average rainfall for the week was as follows: Hawaii, 14.27 inches; Maui, 9.10 inches; Oahu, 3.96 inches; Kauai, 1.83 inches.

Local Conditions. Punahele Ranch, Hawaii—Rain fell daily, amounting to 11.98 inches; especially heavy on the 10th, when 7.08 inches fell in 24 hours. Much damage to roads and bridges.

Kohala Mill, Hawaii—Heavy rain Wednesday night. Much damage to creeks through washouts. Three concrete bridges and two railway bridges washed away, others damaged. At the 1,000 ft. level, 12.6 inches of rain fell in 16 hours.

Niuli, Hawaii—Very heavy rains during last two days of week. Plantation bridges washed away and dune trees badly damaged. Government road bridges washed out completely.

Papaikou, Hawaii—Bad weather is delaying all work, and the heavy rains and low temperatures are keeping growth back.

Ponahawai, Hawaii—The land is too wet for cultivation. Some potatoes which were planted on the 6th are in danger of rotting because of the excessive moisture. Cane harvesting has been suspended for lack of room for the sugar. Sunshine needed very much.

Gloweod Experiment Station, Hawaii—Rainfall practically continuous; difficult to cultivate fields, and to fight out worms which are now numerous. Growing crops in good condition.

Kapoho, Hawaii—Heavy thunderstorm on the morning of the 11th; 18.15 inches of rain fell between 5 p. m. and 9 a. m. Mail storm at 8 p. m. of the 11th.

Waikuku, Maui—Storm seems to be broken. Too cool and too much rain for vigorous crop growth.

Haiku Experiment Station, Maui—The heaviest rainfall in years fell during the week. On the 10th 7.43 inches fell in 12 hours. Considerable damage was done to corn crop just travelling, and such as was mature and not harvested. Heads are in the worst condition since 1914.

A heavy rainstorm, amounting to almost a cloudburst, occurred on windward Oahu during the night of the 11th 12th. Much damage to roadways and bridges.

The heaviest rainfall for the week occurred at Laupahoehoe, where 29.09 inches fell. At Kapehu, Puna, the precipitation was 28.50.

W. S. S.

## A PARENT'S DUTY.

Your boy is always getting scratched or cut or bruised. Because these wounds have healed all right is no sign they always will. Get a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm and see that every injury is cared for immediately. You can get nothing better, and blood poison is too dangerous a disease to risk. For sale by all Dealers. Benson, Smith & Co., agents for Hawaii—Adv.

## DUTCH SHIPS WILL CARRY MUCH SUGAR

NEW YORK, April 1.—According to advices received by Facts About Sugar on Thursday from Washington by the Joint Committee on West Indies Transportation, the Shipping Board has assigned twenty of the Dutch steamers taken over by the Government for immediate service in the West Indian sugar-carrying service.

Gives Six More Ships.

This new order covering assignments increases the number of ships allotted to the committee by six, as previously only fourteen Dutch ships had been assigned to this service under charter arrangements. As only thirty-seven of the steamers seized are to be operated by

the Shipping Board, it is apparent that the committee was treated most generously in the assignments made.

With these steamers now available for immediate sailings and permanently to be used as sugar carriers, the prospects are bright for a great improvement taking place in the movement of raws from West Indian ports to American refining points during April as compared with the March record.

It is generally understood throughout local sugar circles that at the request of the Food Administration the committee will endeavor to move approximately 300,000 long tons of Cuban sugar during April. At this writing there is every reason to believe that this goal will be reached, for, in addition to providing the committee with twenty Dutch steamers, the Shipping Board, acting in cooperation with the Food Administration, has announced its intention of allotting ample cargo space during April to bring about a realization of these expectations.